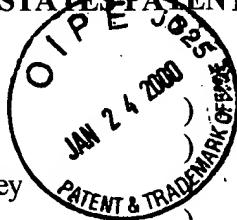


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:



Thomas L. Rainey) Group Art Unit: 3635
Serial No.: 09/339,132) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Filed: June 24, 1999) Docket No. 51810-1050
For: **SEGMENTAL RETAINING**)
WALL SYSTEM)

RECEIVED
JAN 27 2000
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant submits the following preliminary amendment. It is not believed that additional fees are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional fees are necessary, such fees are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 20-0778.

CERTIFIED MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "First Class Mail," in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Box Amendment, Washington, D.C. 20231 on Jan 21, 2000.

Signature: Allison M. Olson